

IN THE CLAIMS:

8. (Currently amended) A method of selectively reforming an inner part of an inorganic body comprising one of an optical memory, a light absorbing device, light emitting device and an amplifier device, which comprises:

emitting a pulsed laser beam of wavelength different from the absorption wavelength of rare earth and/or transition metal ion to an inorganic body containing said rare earth and/or transition metal ion, and

condensing said pulsed laser beam at a focal point in an inner part of said inorganic body, whereby said rare earth and/or transition metal ion changes its valence only at said focal point and its vicinity.

9. (Previously added) The method of selectively reforming an inner part of an inorganic body defined in claim 8, wherein the inorganic body is a glass or crystal containing one or more selected from the group consisting of metal oxides, metal halides and metal chalcogenides.

10. (Previously added) The method of selectively reforming an inner part of an inorganic body defined in claim 8, wherein the rare earth ion is one or more selected from the group consisting of Ce, Nd, Pr, Sm, Eu, Tb, Dy, Tm and Tb ions.

11. (Previously added) The method of selectively reforming an inner part of an inorganic body defined in claim 8, wherein the transition metal ion is one or more selected from the group consisting of Ti, Mn, Cr, V, Fe, Cu, Mo and Ru ions.

12. (Previously added) The method of selectively reforming an inner part of an inorganic body defined in claim 8, wherein the focal point is relatively shifted with respect to the inorganic body so as to form a domain with a predetermined pattern where the rare earth and/or transition metal ion changes its valence.

13. (Previously added) The method of selectively reforming an inner part of an inorganic body defined in claim 8, wherein the inorganic body is irradiated with a pulsed laser beam with pulse width under a picosecond.

14. (Cancelled herein)

15. (Cancelled herein)

16. (Cancelled herein)

17. (Cancelled herein)

18. (Cancelled herein)

19. (Cancelled herein)

20. (Cancelled herein)

21. (Cancelled herein)